

Transportation Projects

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is drafting new transportation authorization legislation to replace the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which expires on September 30, 2009. SAFETEA-LU is the legislation that governs the United States federal surface transportation spending and is reauthorized every 5 years. This legislation will transform our surface transportation programs by strengthening the current Federal-state-local partnership, ensuring that programs meet specific criteria, and providing for greater transparency and accountability for Federal, state, and local decision-making.

The projects I have requested will complement the work already being done by the U.S. Department of Transportation, individual states, metropolitan planning organizations, and public transit agencies. The projects represent diverse transportation needs from across the Second Congressional District. I chose these projects under strict criteria, and a letter of support from a governmental entity was required for each request. Each project had to meet at least one of the following criteria:

Addresses a critical transportation need. The project must address a critical transportation need in the district, such as a new highway, road repaving, bridge repair, or right of way purchases. The project must have the potential to provide the district with transportation resources it currently does not have.

Economic impact. The project will have a serious economic impact on the community or region. The impact could come from construction jobs associated with the project, or enhanced economic development as a result of a new road or bridge.

Would not be funded otherwise. The project would be in jeopardy were it not submitted as a SAFETEA-LU request. The project is something for which Congressman Bright can effectively advocate through the SAFETEA-LU process.

Below are the projects that I submitted to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for approval:

1. Alabama 210 / Ross Clark Circle Lighting Project

\$2,400,000

City of Dothan

125 North Saint Andrews Street

Dothan, Alabama, 36302

As the major connecting highway for the City of Dothan, Alabama 210/Ross Clark Circle provides a corridor for the traveling public, freight movements, and hurricane evacuation. This project will provide roadway lighting for the entire 14.4 mile length of Alabama 210/Ross Clark Circle which will help reduce accident rates and increase motorist safety.

2. Florala Industrial Park Accessibility Project

\$152,000

City of Florala

22642 Wall Avenue

Florala, AL 36442

This project would repave two streets in Florala, Alabama, which lead to the City's Industrial Park. Currently, one of the three entrances is paved. This project would provide improved access to the economic hub of Florala and facilitate further development in the city and surrounding areas.

3. Enterprise Infrastructure Revitalization

\$1,600,000

City of Enterprise

501 South Main Street

Enterprise, AL 36331

This project would resurface and revitalize infrastructure within Enterprise city limits. The proposed roads are highly traveled roads that support a large population in both Enterprise and nearby Fort Rucker. The revitalization would improve the pavement quality and correct unsafe curbing problems.

4. Knight Place Rehabilitation Project

\$420,000

Lowndes County Commission

205 East Tuskeena Street

Hayneville, Alabama 36040

This project would provide funds to acquire the right-of-way to grade, base and pave a segment of Knight Place Road in Hayneville, Alabama. This road facilitates schools and emergency services on a daily basis. These roads need to be rehabilitated in order to provide safe transportation of buses and other emergency vehicles.

5. Montgomery Riverwalk

\$7,600,000

City of Montgomery

103 North Perry Street

Montgomery, AL 36101

The Montgomery Riverwalk is a key component of the city's comprehensive downtown revitalization plan. The Riverwalk will drive significant development into an area that is economically challenged. This project could create 50-100 direct jobs and several hundred indirect jobs. Additionally, this project is an important centerpiece for economic development and growth in Alabama's State Capital.

6. Pike County Rehabilitation Project

\$1,840,000

Pike County Commission

900 South Franklin Drive

Troy, AL 36081

This project will provide funds to rehabilitate portions of Pike County Roads by patching, leveling, resurfacing, and adding traffic striping and other required safety improvements. These roads require rehabilitation in order to provide safe transportation of buses and other emergency vehicles.

7. River Falls Street Rehabilitation Project

\$3,300,000

City of Andalusia

505 East Three Notch Street

Andalusia, AL 36420

This project will improve the safety and commercial viability of one of the primary municipal corridors in the City of Andalusia. It will also alleviate an extensive maintenance effort along the corridor. The improvement of this corridor will enhance business development along the roadway and promote economic expansion in the area.

8. Slocomb Downtown Revitalization Project

\$400,000

City of Slocomb

263 East Lawrence Harris Highway

Slocomb, AL 36375

The City of Slocomb, Alabama, is taking aggressive steps to revitalize its downtown. Investing resources to improve and rehabilitate the streetscape and surrounding areas will create a better environment for local businesses, business incubation, and trade. It would also increase access to retail, educational and government resources.

9. South Brannon Stand Road Rehabilitation Project

\$4,800,000

Houston County Commission

462 North Oates

Dothan, Alabama 36303

Due to the high volume of traffic, Houston County has proposed to expand a segment of South Brannon Stand Road, from State Hwy 52 to State Hwy 84, into four lanes. The funding from this request would be used to acquire the necessary right of way for the project and relocate utilities on South Brannon Stand Road in western Houston County. This would be one phase of a comprehensive project to four lane this section of roadway.

10. Tallassee Bridge Project

\$5,600,000

City of Tallassee

3 Freeman Avenue

Tallassee, AL 36078

This project will not only provide an alternate route for vehicular traffic over the Tallapoosa River, but would also serve as the route for truck traffic in the future to alleviate strain on the historic Fitzpatrick Bridge in Tallassee. The project not only will extend the life of the current historic bridge, but will also open up economic development opportunities for the city of Tallassee and Elmore and Tallapoosa counties.

11. Town of Banks Road Revitalization Project

\$40,000

Town of Banks

87 New Street

Banks, AL 36005

This project would repave and rehabilitate several streets in Banks, Alabama, that are in poor condition and unsafe for motorists. This project would improve motorist safety and facilitate further development in the town of Banks and surrounding areas.